

REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple dependent claims in order to avoid the additional fee. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,

 Reg. #32,004

Anthony J. Zelano, Reg. No. 27,969  
Attorney for Applicants  
MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.  
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1  
2200 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1400  
Arlington, VA 22201  
Direct Dial: 703-812-5311  
Facsimile: 703-243-6410  
Email: zelano@mwzb.com

AJZ:jmm

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 5-9 and 12 have been amended as follows:

5. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to at least one of the above ~~claims 1~~, wherein as an additional adjuvant, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyethylene glycol or vinylpyrrolidone-vinyl acetate copolymer or a mixture that consists of the above-mentioned substances is contained.

6. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to at least one of the above ~~claims 1~~, wherein the melt extrusion is carried out without additional heat input.

7. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to at least one of claims 1 to 6 that can be obtained by mixing 17- $\beta$ -estradiol, polyvinylpyrrolidone and saccharose monopalmitate and joint melt extrusion at 60°C.

8. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to at least one of claims 1 to 6 that can be obtained by mixing 17- $\beta$ -estradiol, polyvinylpyrrolidone and glycerol tribehenate and joint melt extrusion at 60°C.

9. (Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to at least one of claims 1 to 6 that can be obtained by mixing ethinylestradiol, polyvinylpyrrolidone and saccharose monopalmitate and joint melt extrusion at 60°C.

12. (Amended) Process according to claim 10 or 11, wherein in addition, the extruded mixture is ground and further processed into pharmaceutical agents with additional pharmaceutically compatible adjuvants and additives.